

Claim 1 recites that the “waveforms applied in the set-up interval of the first and second driving waveforms are different from each other.” From claim 1, it is further clear that the first and second driving waveforms are applied at different temperatures, i.e., “applying a first driving waveform . . . at a first prescribed temperature” and “applying a second driving waveform different . . . at a second prescribed temperature.”

From these recitations, it is therefore clear that claim 1 covers a method for driving a plasma display panel where different waveforms are applied in the set-up interval at different temperatures. (See, for example, Figure 7 for support. As shown in this exemplary non-limiting embodiment, in the section entitled “temperature more than low temperature,” the common sustain electrode Z is held at ground for a first part of the set-up interval and is left floating at a certain voltage for a second part (e.g., period Td) of the set-up period. In contrast, in the section entitled “low temperature,” the common sustain electrode Z is held at ground throughout the entire set-up period.) The cited references do not teach or suggest the method defined in claim 1.

The Awamoto patent discloses changing the number of display pulses during a sustain period in each sub-field used to drive a plasma display panel. See, for example, column 8, lines 10-32, which provides in relevant part:

When the display load factor exceeds 20%, the automatic power control function decreases the number of display pulses [ ]. In this way, the sustain period TS of each subframe is shortened, and the sum of the eight subframe periods T1', T2', T3', T4', T5', T6', T7', and T8' becomes shorter than the frame period Tf.

However, Awamoto makes no modification of the driving waveform in the initialization period at different temperatures. See column 7, lines 61-66, which discloses a reset period TR which the Examiner has identified as an initialization period in each subframe. The Awamoto patent does not teach or suggest applying different waveforms in a set-up interval of this TR period for different temperatures as recited in claim 1.

To make up for deficiencies of the Awamoto patent, the driving method disclosed in Figures 3 and 5 of Applicants' drawings was cited. Figure 3 shows waveforms used to drive a plasma display panel. Unlike claim 1, the waveforms applied in the set-up interval remain the same irrespective of temperature differences. Thus, the Figure 3 method does not apply different waveforms in the set-up interval for different temperatures as recited in claim 1. The same is true of the Figure 5 waveforms.

The Figure 5 method applies a different waveform during the initialization period than the Figure 3 method. However, like Figure 3, the Figure 5 method does not apply different waveforms in the set-up interval for different temperatures. On the contrary, the waveforms applied to the set-up interval remain the same irrespective of temperature differences.

Applicants further note that the Figure 3 and Figure 5 methods apply different driving waveforms during the set-up interval of an initialization period. However, these methods have always been used separately from one another. There is no disclosure in Applicants' specification of commonly applying these waveforms in a same plasma display panel. Moreover, neither

Figures 3 and 5 nor the corresponding portions of the specification teach or suggest applying these different waveforms in the set-up period at different temperatures. Thus, the Examiner's assertion that Figures 3 and 5 was somehow admitted to be combinable in a manner that meets the features of claim 1 is unsupported both by Applicants' specification and by any objective teaching in the cited references.

In summary, neither Figure 3 nor Figure 5 of Applicants' drawings teach or suggest the features of claim 1 missing from the Awamoto patent. Without a teaching or suggestion of these features, it is respectfully submitted that an Awamoto-APA combination cannot be relied on to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness for claim 1 or any of its dependent claims.

Claim 7 recites that the "waveforms applied in the set-up interval of the first and second driving waveforms are different from each other while waveforms applied in the other periods are substantially identical to each other." Claim 7 further recites that the first driving waveform is "supplied when said driving temperature of the panel is a first prescribed temperature . . . different from a second driving waveform supplied when said driving temperature of the panel is a second prescribed temperature." These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 11 recites that the "waveforms applied in the set-up interval of the first and second driving waveforms are different from each other" and that the controller "differently controls said turning-on and said turning-off of the switching device when a driving temperature inputted

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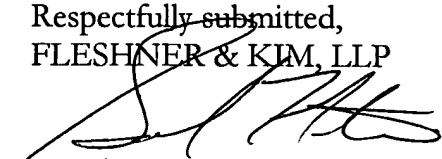
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from the temperature sensor is a first prescribed temperature and when a driving temperature inputted from the temperature sensor is a second prescribed temperature, the first and second temperatures being different." These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

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